RAJYA SABHA

Tuesday, the 12th August, 1997/21ST *Sravana,* 1919, *(Saka)*

The House met at Eleven of the clock..

The Deputy Chainnan in the Chair

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTION

Non-uilisatiom of Exetnal Dests

*281 SHRI NARENDRAMOHAN: Will be the Minister of FINAnCE pleased to state:

(a) whether two-thirds of expenditure of Govemment is beyond the purview of le Parliament;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the servicing and repay-Jients of external debt is a major factor for this state of affairs;

(d) the percentage of unutilised funds available from external debts during the last two years;

(e) whether State Governments are directly negotiating external debts and are they responsible for not completely etilising the external debts or grants; and

(f) how much external grants have been given to India during the last three years and how much of it remained un utilised Or has not been utilised within the stipulated time-frame?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

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(a) and (b) No, Sir. Parliamentary approval is obtained for all items of expenditure of the Govemment, whether 'charged' or 'voted', through the Apipro-priation Act, under Article 114(3) of heConstitution.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Most of the external assistance is tied to specific projects and disburse ments are therefore, linked to the project implementation schedule and its life cycle which runs over a number of years normally around 5 to 6 years The utili-sation, there ore, is spread over the pro-ject cycle. The percentage of unutilised external loans on Govemment Account during 95-96 was 82.10 per cent and during 96-97 78,40 per cent.

(e) The State Governments cannot negotiate external loans directly. How-ever, to the extent of external assistance being taken by the State Governments, they are responsible for utilising them . for implementation of the projects

(f) In the three years from 1994-95 to 1996-97, the External Grants given to India are Rs. 5,371.32 crores, of which Rs. 1,522 32 crores was utilised and at the end of March, 1997, Rs, 3,849 crores of this External Grant was unutilised.

The External Grants given have a span of life which is linked to the execution of the Projects and hence the utilisation is spread over a number of years depend ing upon the project cycle.

SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Madam, the hon. Minister is over-smart because he is not divulging to this august House the percentage of expenditure of the Government of India which is beyond the purview of Parliament. He is also not divulging to this august House about how much is the interest payment on foreign debts and how much they constitute as a percentage. So far as these fxmds are concerned the Parliament has hardly any power to rectify them or change them. He has also not informed the House on what terms and conditions these foreign loans have been taken. He has also not answered whether the negotiations which had been done while taking foreign debts, were first approved by Parliament or not. Besides, there arc many public sector undertakings like the Indian Oil Corporation which are taking a lot of foreign loans which ultimately

have to be paid by the Government of India. If the Government of India stands as a guarantee for any payment, it has to be paid by the Government of India becaiise it becomes the responsibility of the Government of India; The Ministe is not coming out with these facts My supplementaty *is* this. I would like to know whether the' Finance Minister is aware that there are many public sector unndertaking and' also vardius State Governments which' are going abroad taking loans. He says that the State Governments are not taking loans Madam. the Government of Uttar Pradesh and several other State Governments have gone abroad and negc tiated several projects and those projects are, linked with foreign debts. I would' like Know whether the Minister is aware of it or not. T would also like to know whether all the money that will be ultimately paid to other countries will be monitored by Parliament. I would also like know Whether the Parliament has the authority to monitor such debts which have 'been taken by the Indian Oil Corporation and" other State Govern ments.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Madam, I would like to draw your attention to' ' article 113 of the Constitution. It says;-

> so much of the estimates as relates to expenditure char god upon;the solidated Fund -of India shall not' be submitted to the vote of Patliament,' but *houthing in this* clause shal be constred as preventing the discussion in either House of Parlament of an of those estimanesnt.

Nothing is therefore; beyond the pur-viewof Parliament. The question is wether two third of expenditure of Government is beyond the purview of the Parlrament It is not not Every thing is within the purview' of parlia ment Charged expenditure as proveded the Constitution cannot be voted upon Non charged expendite voted upon There for I respectfully maintaion that the answer farnisged is correct. So far The question of borrowings of State Governments is concerned , I have made it clear that the State Governmnts are not entitled to Borrow ' directly from abroad In fact, article 293(1) of the Constittiti&i is very dear about it. It is true that the State Governments have extei-nally aided, projects, These.,-exter nally' aided projects have to be negotia-ted only through the Central Govefn-ment. And where an externally aided project for a State is negotiated, the funds are transferred .to the State Gov ernment implementing that project. The implementaticm of that project is moni tored by the Central Government, The repayment of those debts of-' course is the responsibility of the State Government but the Central Government is fully involved both in borrowittg and if monitoring and implementation of thet project,

SHRI NARENDKA MOHAN Madam I am not satisfied with this answer, but still I would like to

THE DBFOTT CHAIRMAN But he was reading the Clauses' of the constiu tion .....

SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: But my question was how much wa the per-ce-ntageof that expenditure wich was ing paid by the Govemmerit of India and which was not being discussed in the parliament

SHRI P CHIDAMBARAIvl; Madam as I said everything is discussed in Par liamept,the question is; what is the chac dextpepditure and what is not the charged expenditure

SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN Plese specify what the charged expanditure is

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SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I am lanswering. A bulk of the charged ex-penditure really is 'Simply a national expenditure which . is repayment of inter-nal debt for example where a 90 day bill

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Would the hon. Memner kindly sit down. Madam, so that I can.....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Perhaps he thought that he could reach the answer better if hie is at the same level. When he sits down he may not reach the correct; answer

SHRI P' CHIDAMBARAM As far as charged expenditure is concerned, for example if you look at Article 112, Sub-Article 3, Clauses (a) to (g) Hst the charged expenditure-Bmoluments to the President, the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha—Rs. '5.88 crores. Interest payments under Article 112.3(c)—Rs. 68,000 crores; Judges and their pensionary benefits —Rs. 31.10 crores; The Comptroller and Auditor General of India—Rs. 17.52 crores; Sums required to satisfy courts' decrees—Rs. 44 crores; UPSC Chairmani and Members—Rs. 26.74 crore; Grants to States as a result of Finance Commissibn's 'Award—Rs. 4,517,81 crores. Payments of States' share of' Union Excise Duty which' is obarged ttader Article 275, sub-Article (1)—Rs. 24,563 crores, Loans to State Governments under Article 293, sub-Article (2;)_Rs. 25,150 crores. The total of this, would amount to about. a_ hundred and twenty thousand, crores of. rupees. Then there is another large amount which is repayment of internal debt and repayment of external debt Re-paymet of external debt is Rs, 7,464 crores, Repayment of internal debt , is simply a national figure where the tifea-sury bills are rolled over and that, of coaurse , will , appear to be a very large amount. But these are treasury bills whichi are rolled over every 90 days or other dated. instruments. This is Rs. 290,764 erores. So, if you net out the repayment, of intfeimal debt in respect -of items -which are specifically cbarged lender Article 112—as I gave you the figures, these; are ;the heeads, which, are fearg--ed expenditure—these, rare within the purview of the Parliament, except by virtue not-the Constitution these are not voted upon by the Parliament, these are discussed in the Parliament

SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: THE way we are taking external debt, Madam the hon Finance Minister would agree" that we are moving either towards the Brazilian economy or the Mexican eco . nomy.-The debt-GNP ratio of Brazil 27.9. '-The debtGNP ratio of Mexico is 35.2. In the case of China it is 19.3, while in the case of India it is 34.2, The debt-GNP fatio is a major indicator which has to be cbhsidetted for knowing the indebtedness of a cotiratty. India is considered to be a very heavily indebted ' country now, Madam. If the hon_ Fin ance Minister wants to have a copy of it, I can give it. As per these reports, I am giving you initernatidnai comparisons. The top-ten debted oMintries in 1994 have been given here, may be, there may be little changes here and there but still I would like to Know why the debt-GNP ratio of external debt is so high in India? Are we not moving towards Brazil and Mexico? Brazil has 27.9 while in India it is 34.2. Then again, the Indian percentage of the ratio of debt service to "the export of *goods* and services is very, very high. It is 26.3 while in the case of Brazil it is 31.8, if you compare the Indian ecotioiny with the Bradilian economy or if you comparief ' the Indion economy with the Mexicarilsl economy, then *it* shows that we are not in very happy position. Rather we are in a very indebted position. what is the. comment of the Minster?

SHRI P. GHIDAMBARAM MADAM T have placed before this House a stotus report on India external′ debt' -and I) assume'the hem; Member is reading from that repot or a similar document India is not one ot the heavily indebted: countries' of the werld That does not mean that we should not be coneerned; about the external debt or we should -not try to manage our economy better it order to improve our external situattoni But the fact is, in the last sk years the key debt ifrdtcators of India have improved remarkably. Let us take Madam, the two rat'os which are often appaiesaqf and universlly accepted. One is, the debt service ratio that is debt as a pro-.

portion to curreat receipts. ID 1991, it was 35.25 pr cent and it has come dowa to 25.70 per cent in 1995-96. Peor as a proportioo of GDP in 1990-91 was 30.44 per cent and in 1995-96 it has come down to 28.71 per cent. In fact, while estimates for 1996-97 are awaited, there are indications that there would b© further improvement in *ihe* two key debt indicators which arc universally accepted. I think our debt service ratio as well as our debt to GDP has come down very sharply. We are stiM improving and we have improved in 1996-97 but the ftaal figures will be avajlabla shortly.

SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Are we not equal to Brazil? Are we worse than Brazil?

PROF. NAUNIHAL SINGH: May I ask the hon. Minister of Finance whether I there is any proposal before the Govern ment to consider a statute for fixing the borrowing limit under Article 292 oti the Constitution of India in view of the! fact that the Governmeat have gone Jn for massive loans from IMF and World Bankt: etc. on conditions harmful to the sell-! reliant national economy and increosingl craze for soft options to deal with the! problems on economic front? If so, what are the details?

SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM: Madam, the suggestion to cap borrowings hasi been made from time to time. There isl no proposal now to impose a cap.

PROF. RAM KAPSE: In reply (d). the" percentage of unutilised external loans on Government account during 1995-96 is shbwn as 82.10 per cent and durin,g 1996-97, it is 78.40 per cent. The per-centage is definitely on a very high side. I would like to know whether the States are facing any problem while geting their bwn amounts from the Union Government which is creating a problem as far as non-utilisation of debt is concerned.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Madam, there are a number of reasons why the utisation of external aid is low. Most Project are iread over five to seven years. Thereflare, at any given poi-ni of time the utilisation ratio will be only about 18 to 20 per cent. In fact, our utilisation ratios improved sharply in 1996-97 and I gave out these figures in answer to another question a few days ago. The World Bank aid utilisation percentage has gone up. The Asian Deve-lopment Bank aid utilisation percentage has gone up. The overall aid utilisation percentage has gone up. These are problems with the States and all these problems are welfknown. Firstly, it is inadequate provision. The State Governments do not provide enough funds in their budget for these projects and if their bwn funds are inadequate they would be unable to draw funds from the external aid giver because that is directly related to the progress of the project. Suppose a five-year project is not provided for in five years and the provisioning takes it to seven or eight years—there is a time-overturn of a project because of inadequate provision—then the drawal of external aid will not be in five years, it will be in seven to eight years, fhene-fore, aid utilisation will come down

The second realson is procurement and contracting delavs. Even where fundi are provided they are not spent because they have huge delays in dfrcidinj;' upot. the contractor, in giving out the contract and in procurement. Unless they tighten up the procedures on this, they wouls not be able to spend the funds which they had provided for in the budget.

The third reason is the start-up and other procedural delays. Approval is granted at various levels before drawal starts. Detailed designs and estimates have to be given to the donor. If there are delays in giving the detailed estimates and designs, then the starting day of aid will be deferred and as a result debt ntilisation gets deferred. So, there are a number of reasons.

We have taken a number of steps in! order to quicken the process of aid uti- llisation. I will merely list the number

of things that we have done. We are now giving Central assistance as 100 per cent additionality. We are giving Ad vance ACA to States. The procedure has been simplified. ACA is now being rele ased in the beginning of the year,. In 1997-98, for example, the Government has already released Rs 708 cnores as Advance ACA to the States. We are also asking the States to ration alise their portfolios, to give up projets which are simply not taking off or for which funds cannot be provided. We have also standardised the bidding docu ments and we are asking the States to follow standard bidding documents in oi-der to compress the delay in procure ment and contracting. We are also pro viding more funds in the Plan. For ex ample, last year wjien we saved — and I am talking from my memory — appro ximately Rs. 2,500 crores in the Plan, we gave this as additional Central assis tance to the States. A number of steps are b°ing taken. We have placed in posi tion for World Bank projects a monitor ing mechanism. The monitoring mech anism reports now simultaneously to both the Chief Minister and to me and as a result of Vhat the World Bank aid utilisa tion has sharply increased to about 18 pe rcent. ADB aid utilisation has always been *very* high. We have taken a num ber of steps and 1996-97 has been one of the hlghest aid utilisation years.

श्री रामजीलाल: महोदया,में यह कहना चाहता हूं कि 1994-95 से 1996-97 तक तीन वर्षो में भारत को 5371.32 करोड़ रूपए मिला और खर्च हुआ 1522.32 करोड़ रूपए । मंत्री जी ने यह भी कहा है कि 3849 करोड़ रूपए बकाया है । यह भी कहा है कि क्योंकि दिए गए अनुदान की एक समयावधि होती है,जो परियोजनाओं के क्रियान्वयन से जुड़ी है और इस प्रकार परियोजना चक्र पर निर्भर रहते हुए इस उपयोग का समय विस्तार अनेक वर्षो तक होता है । यह बात तो ठीक है उपयोग होने में समय लगता होगा मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि इतनी बड़ी रकम 3849 करोड़ रूपए जो अभी तक बकाया है उसकी क्या वजह है,कौन से फंड से डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन होता है,कौन-कौन से महकमें में जाता है और इतना अमाउंट अब तक क्यों पड़ा हुआ है इसका कारण बताएं ।

SHRI p. CHIDAMBARAM: Madam, as I explained, these projects are aided by external donors and each of these projects has a period of time for imp lementation. The average period of time of implementation, as we have found, is five to six yeais Now, the aid given/ during the last three years will remain matilised because project implementation) has to begin and from the starting date, completion will take at least five years. If you look at the most recent projects for which aid is being tied, up, the unutilised portion will be larger than the utilised portion. But, if you look at aid given, say, seven years ago, the utilised portion will be larger than the unutilised portion. There is nothing unusual about it. As I have said, aid utilisation has improved significantly in 1996-97 and we are taking steps to improve it furter. Worldwide aid utilisation percentage is about 20 per cent because a five-year project at 20 per cent aid utilisation will be completed in five years. We must aim at reaching aid utilisation percentage of about 20 per cent. We are moving towards that. It is approximately 18 per cent for the World Bank, and about the same for ADB. It is slightly lower for OECF loans But, we are doing bur best to see that we reach 20 per cent.

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGIA: As different States raise different amounts of external loans, do you have Statewise data of what kind of loans they have raised? Has the Central Government fixed any upper limit for different States to raiso, loans? I also want to know what the Central Government negotiates, whether it negotiates the terms and con-diions alone or the total amount of loan. If some States raise more loans, then pro-ibably the State's economy may not bei 'able to permit that. What kind of cor»-trol do you exercise on them?

SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM: Madam, I presume the hon. Member is talking about external loans.

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA Yes.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: There is no particular cap for any State. It all depends upon the worthiness of the pro- ject. If the project is a good project and it is posed to the Government of India for seeking external aid, either from World Bank or from Japan, ODA or from ADB, then after we study the pro- ,Ject and we are satisfied that it is .credit-worthy and purpose — worthy pro. Ject, we pose it to one of the agencies. There is no quota Or cap fixed for each. State. Now, the donor does a very rig-. prou-s exami-aation of the project. In fact the examination of these projects goes on for about oae-and-a-half years or two years. They do due diligence. It is only when they are satisfied that the State- has the capacity to repay, that they will ex- „ tend the loan. We also join in the discus- . sion to ensure that the State has capacity to repay. A State which does Jlot have the capacity to repay, simply cannot get a project approved by any of these external donors who are very, very. rigorous in their due diligence. We ace fully involved in the negotiations. They cannot negotiate directly. Ihey have to negotiate only through the Gov- nment of India and the aid is tied only through the Government of India, and We monitor the implementation. Disbur- sement again goes through the Govern- ment of India.

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: adam, the fact of the matter is that in this situation only the developed States will have the capacity to repay the loan and weattr States do not ,get projects sanctioned even if they have the best projects. What is the mechanism with the Central Government to ensure that externally aided projects are sanctioned to the weaker States?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: That is not quite,forrect, .Madam, It is not only the States which are implementing ex ternally aided projects. The Central Go vernment Ministries are also implemen ting externally aided projects. So, when a Central Government Ministry, say, for example, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is implementing an ex- temasly aided project, or say the Ministry of Education is implementing an exter nally aided project, the benefitt of that project will go to all the States, and in most cases it goes to the weaker States, it goes to the less developed States. You are right. Then hon. Member is partially right. When a State directly poses an externally aided project, it is likely that the stronger and the more developed State will be able to pose an externally aided project, but when the Central Gov ernment Ministries pose eixtemally aided projects, the benefit goes to all the Sta tes, including the weaker States. In fact, a State like Orissa which is not consi dered a developed State, has today an uti lised balance of Rs. 2826 crores and for multi-State projects, covering more than one State, which are usually implemen ted by one of the Ministries of the Government of India, the Unutilised aid as of 1.4.1997 is Rs. 5711 crores.

SHRI J. CHITHARANIAN: Madam, I would like to know frOm the hon. Finance Minister whether the Government of India intends to take any further measures to improve the utilisation of loans and .grants ft)r various projecrs and also to avoid time and cost-overruns.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Madam, I listed the number of steps that we are taking in response to on hon. Member questions. The disbursemnt ratio in 1995-96 was 17.03 per cent. In 1996-97, provisionally, we have found a disburse- ment ratio of 18.70 per cent. As X said, we must aim at a disbursement ratio of 20 per cent and that, I believe, would be equal tp the best dsnousement ratio of any other coimtry of the world, about 20 per cent.'

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Madam, So far as the question of non-utilisation of. any other conutry of the world about

Been said by the hon. Members. I only I want to say that I am not finding fault with the donors. The fault lies with us, a matter of fact. Something has been, done on that score, as the hon. Finance 'Minister has identified; certain remedial measures to rectify the mistakes are' undertaken_ Suppo'se a donor gives you 5 ,or 8 external-aid projects and one project does not pick up berause (of non-iprpvision by a State. Can you not club a11 these five projects against one donor so that instead of utilising it on one project, it could be used in another prooject? Is it not possible to find out a way;, out? This is question number one. Number two, for our own implementing agencies, for example, the Planning Com mission's cost over-runs and time overruns for projects beyond Rs. 20 crores, which they are' monitoring, is round about Rs. 40,000 crores, as has been dis-closed to a committee. May I know about; the effective steps the Government has in mind to improve the utilisation percentage by clubbing projects as ag-aiast a particular donor and also with regard to time fixing for checking the cost over runs a ls and time over runs

SHRI P. DAMBARAM: Madam, I THe answer to the first part of the question is, 'not Donors will not agree to club projects Donors arc not only cow u'ntries;' donors are also multinational agencies like the World Bank and the ADB. They would not club the projects. How Can you club, say, a power project in Maharashtra with a rural water supply project in Uttar Pradesh?

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: I am talking about these in the same State.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: If it is moro than one State, clearly the quss-tion does not arise. Even if it is in one Stiate, say, a power project in Maharash-plus a rural water, supply project in .Maharashtra, one is in the social sector ; and. the other is in the infrastructure sector where commercial returns would be *much* higher and the pay back would be on different term's, no donor would agree to club these projects. I am only givirig an example. Please do not think that I ani saying that the Government of 'X' State is unable to implement the power project for whatever reasons. If it fails to observe conditionalities, that aid would be liable to cancellation. But, if it does well jn rural water supply, there is no reason why that thing should suffer as a result of the first one. 1 do not beljeye that jt can be ckifcbed at all. In fact, the suggestion,. I think, will hot fly.

The second think is imporcting the Utiiisaiton. The Planning Commission ise monitoring, no doubt, the projects when investment is over Rs. 20 crores. But, the Planning Commission monitored projects are not all externally-aided projects. They are mostly projects, which are funded ffom domestic resburces, from the Budget and from lEBR. The externally-aided projects are monitored by the Ministrp of Finance. As I said, after my talks with the World Bank President we have placed in position a monitorion mechani. In each State, they have identified a nodal officer who will be respio'nsible for preparin,g a six-monthly report and he will submit it simpltane-ously to the Chief Minister and to me. And - then we will review it with the World -feank officials to see the utilisation. As a result of that, in 1996-97 the aidrutilisation percentage has improved for the World Bank as well as overall. Overall aie utilisation perdentage has increased from 17.03 to 18,70, what we call the disbursement ratio. As I said, I am aiming at 20 per cent. I think if we touch 20 per cent, we will be comparable to any other country in the world. . . . *282. *The questioner Shrimati Jayanti*

Col .....

283. *The questioner (Shri Chimanbhai Haribhai Shukla) was absent for Answers, vide Col... infra*

*284 The *questioners (Shri Vishnu Kant Shatri and Shri Bangaru Laxman) were absent for Answers, vide Col...*

DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Madam, can you club Ques-tjon No_ 285 and Question No. 287? ... *(Interruptions)* ... They are on the same topic.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Both these questions are on Melghat.

. . . (Interruptions) ...

DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Both these questions relate *to* the same *Ministry... (Interruptions)*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think we will come to that question _____ *(Inter-ruptions)...* But, the hon. Member m whose name Question No. 285 stands, is absent.... *(Interruptions)* . .. The ques tioner of 285 is absent *(Interruptions).* .. Shrjmati Basanti Sharma and Shri V. Rajeshwar Rao are not there... *(Interrup tions)..."We* will come to that. Let Us finish Question No 286 first _____ *(Inter ruptions) ...*

*285. *The questioners Shiimati Basanti Sharma and Shri V. Rajeshwar Rao) were absent. For answer vide col. infra.*

Collection under VDIS

*286. SHRI MUKESH R. PATEL:
SHRI SANJAY NIRUPUM:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Voluntary Disclosure of Income Scheme (VDIS) of Government has not picked up as it was estimated;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the details of the amount So far collected in this scheme?

Statement

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P, CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House, (a) to (c) It is premature to make any assessment about the success of the scheme. The Voluntary Disclosure of Income Scheme-1997, came into operation from 1.7.97 and will last till 31.12.97, This scheme has been launched to harness black money for productive purposes. The responsie to the scheme will depend, to a large extent, upon the confidence of the declarants on maintain-ence of confidentiality of the disclosures. Keeping this in view, the scheme provides that declarations shall be filled on'y to Commissioners of Income Tax. For the same reason details are not bcinf obtained centrally from the Commis-sioners regarding the number of de clarants or the amounts disclosed, etc.

It has been ded,ed to, take stock _ oniy towards the end of the period of operation of the scheme.

श्री सजंय निरूपम: मैडम,मैंने वालेंटरी डिस्कलोजर इन्कम स्कीम के बारे में सवाल इसलिए रखा है क्योंकि 28 फरवरी,1997 को जब माननीय वित्त मंत्री,श्री चिदम्बरम साहब ने अपना बजट पेश किया था और यह स्कीम अनाउन्स की थी,तभी इसकी बहुत आलोचना हुई थी इसको बहुत क्रिटिसाइज किया गया था,और ऐसा कहा गया था कि यह स्कीम सक्सैसफुल नहीं हो पाएगी । ऐसा एक-दो अखबारों में छपकर आया है कि यह स्कीम सक्सैसफुल नहीं हो रहीं है । बहुत अच्छे ढंग से जो ब्लैक मनी को रिकवर करने वाली बात है,तो यह उन लोगों को एट्रेक्ट नहीं कर पा रही है । तो मेरा सवाल था कि यह स्कीम फ्लाप हो गई है या सक्सैसफुल है ? चिदम्बरम साहब ने जवाब यह दिया है कि,

"It is prematur to make any assessr' ment of the suce!ss of this scheme.

मैडम,इस स्कीम को लांच हुए 42 दिन हो गए हैं । 42 दिनों में क्या चिदम्बरम साहब ने इस स्कीम को रिव्यू करने के लिए कोई भी मीटिंग बुलाई है फोटनाइटली या मथली ? अगर वे नाम डिस्कलोज नहीं कर सकते तो इतना तो बता सकते हैं कि इन 42 दिनों में आल ओवर इंडिया में,सारे हिन्दुस्तान में कितने आवेदन आए हैं डिफरेंट कमीशन्स के पास ?

† The question was actually asked on